

- [18] N-[5-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-3-iodo-salicyloyl]valine;
[19] N-[5-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-3-iodo-salicyloyl]-aspartic acid; and
[20] N-[5-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-3-iodo-salicyloyl]asparagine.

4. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to ~~claims claim~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ comprising a step of reacting diflunisal or at least one derivatives derivative thereof with an iodination reagent.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the iodination reagent ~~may be selected from~~ is selected from the group consisting of: elemental iodine; iodide salts; ~~such as~~ sodium iodide; ~~or~~ potassium iodide; iodonium salts; ~~such as~~ iodine chloride; iodonium complexes; ~~such as~~ bis(pyridine)iodonium (I) tetrafluoroborate; ~~or~~ bis(sym-collidine)iodonium (I) hexafluorophosphate; ~~and~~ organic iodine compounds; ~~such as~~ iodobenzene diacetate; and ~~or~~ N-iodosuccinimide.

6. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a compound according to ~~claims claim~~ claim 1, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

7.-9. (Canceled)

REMARKS

By the above amendments, claims 2-6 have been placed in form for allowance and issue.

Claim 5 has been amended to set forth the selection species in Markush-type format.

The selection group in claim 5 is properly constituted. See MPEP 2173.05 (h), which provides that

"... the double inclusion of an element by members of a Markush group is not, in itself, sufficient basis for objection to or rejection of claims.... The mere fact that a compound may be embraced by more than one member of a Markush group recited in the claim does not necessarily render the scope of the claim unclear. For example, the Markush group, "selected from the group consisting

of amino, halogen, nitro, chloro and alkyl" should be acceptable even though "halogen" is generic to 'chloro.'"

Accordingly, all claims 1-6, as herein amended, are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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